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PATENT
Attorney Docket No.: 12553-007410US

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

On Oct 2, 2001

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By: Connie Larson

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Idriss Mansouri-Ruiz

Application No.:

Filed:

For: AUTOMATIC/MANUAL
LONGITUDINAL POSITION
TRANSLATOR AND ROTARY DRIVE
SYSTEM FOR CATHETERS

Examiner:

Art Unit:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

#5
Pre Amends
A

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-referenced application, please enter the following amendments and remarks.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1-9 as follows, and cancel claims 10-32.

1. (Once Amended) A catheter assembly comprising:
a hollow sheath having a proximal portion and a tip;
an elongate operative element slidably and rotatably housed within the sheath, the
operative element comprising a distal end and a proximal end;
the elongate operative element comprising a relatively stiff initial section
extending from the proximal end thereof;